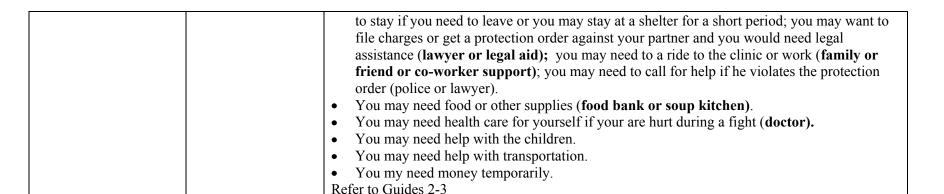
PARTNER ABUSE: SAFETY BEHAVIORS INTERVENTION

SESSION 5: MY CIRCLE OF SUPPORT

TOPIC	Materials	Advisor Talking Points
INTRODUCTION Current Abuse Status	 Guide 1 - Cycle of Abuse Workbook – Cycle of Abuse Assessment 	 Last time we talked about the fact that you and your partner had some conflicts. Conflict is a normal part of relationships and couples have a variety of ways of solving differences. But it is very concerning when couples solve their differences by a woman and her baby getting hurt. You remember that we have talked about how the fighting can affect you or your baby and that your partner may use many different behaviors or words to hurt you and to control you. We also talked about why you may have chosen to stay (or to leave). Since we have last talked how have things been in your relationship? (Use Workbook – Cycle of Abuse Assessment – let her fill in where she is on the Cycle and give examples) Where are you on the Cycle? – Please tell what has happened since we last talked. Tell about any new incidents of abuse. Has your behavior changed? How? Has his behavior changed? New types of abuse? Controlling behavior? Have you used the calendar – to note when your partner hurts you? Uses controlling behavior? Were you able to carry out any of your Safety Plan? What were you able to do?
PARTNER ABUSE	Guides 2-3	Which part was harder to carry out? (Refer to Guides 2.2. My Girele of Support.)
EDUCATION	My Circle of	(Refer to Guides 2-3 – My Circle of Support) Whether you choose to stay or to leave or to ask your partner to leave, you will need a circle
My Circle of Support	Support	of support around you. The support may come from your family members, your friends or co-workers, or from officials such as police, legal aid, shelter staff, social workers, doctor,
my check of Support	Workbook – Circle	etc.
	of Support	• For example you may need someone (family or friend support) to provide you with a place



Today I want you to start to create Your (My) Circle of Support

The Circle will be most helpful – if you can add phone numbers or other contact information

(Help her to begin to fill in the Workbook - Circle of Support)

SAFETY ASSESSMENT	 Guide 4 – Safety Status Assessment Workbook = Safety Assessment 	(Assess her current abuse status – Use Guide 4 – Safety Assessment Questions) Is your current partner or a former partner hurting you? Assess Her Safety (Workbook) Is the abuser here now?YesNo Are you afraid of your partner?YesNo Are you afraid to go home?YesNo Has the physical violence increased in severity?YesNo Has the abuser ever been reported for child abuse?YesNo Have children witnessed violence in the home?YesNo Has he threatened to kill you?YesNo Has he threatened to kill himself?YesNo Is there a gun in the home?YesNo Does he use drugs or alcohol?YesNo There is no Score that equals Danger – In general the more "Yes" answers, the greater the potential for Danger; note if she is afraid or afraid to return home to the partner; if he has a gun and if he is using alcohol or drugs. I am very concerned for your immediate safety. There are several things we can do right now-you can call a family member or friend, I can call the shelter or I can call the social worker – what do you think would be best?
OPTIONS	 Guide 5 – Options Pamphlet – Options – (page 3) 	 You have options or choices- that will help you to stay safe and to keep your baby safe (Refer to Guide 5 – Pamphlet – Page 3) Your options are to: Stay with the abuser If you stay – Make a Safety Plan (Avoid fighting in the kitchen or bathroom; remove weapons); Call the police if he abuses again; Attend a battered women's support group; Get the abuser to go to batterer's intervention; Get him to go to substance abuse treatment; Get counseling for the children; Get counseling for yourself Remove the abuser (ARREST) Best way to stop the abuse; Temporarily removes the abuser; Police can arrest and file charges- woman can file charges and police arrest; Filing a report is

		not the same as filing charges – Ask the police what they are filing; Court can order him to batterer intervention program • Protective Orders • Prohibits abuser from coming within a specified distance of work and home and from communicating with woman; If abuser violates order, he can be arrested; After abuser is removed –change all door locks; Have a Safety Plan • Leave the Abuser • Battered Women's Shelter • Family or Friends
SAFETY PLAN	 Guide 6 – Safety Plan Pamphlet – Safety Plan (page 4) Pamphlet – Resources (page 5) Calendar 	 I am glad you were able to talk about the abuse in your relationship. Now we can discuss things you can do to keep you and your baby safe. You can use a calendar to make notes of when the fighting or abuse is happening. (Refer to Guide 6 – Safety Plan- page 3 of Pamphlet) TRY TO DO THE FOLLOWING: Hide money Hide extra set of house or car keys Establish code with family and friends Ask neighbors to call police if violence begins Remove weapons Have available Social security numbers (his, yours, children) Rent and utility receipts Birth certificates (yours and children) Bank account numbers Insurance policies and numbers Marriage license or divorce decree Valuables (jewelry) Important telephone numbers Hide bag with extra clothes Talk to children
PERSONAL	Guide 7 – Personal	 What are your Personal Safety Strategies: Will you do something different in the next few weeks?

RELATIONSHIP STRATEGIES	Relationship Strategies	 List what steps you will take on the safety plan between now and the next time we meet. Use the Calendar to make notes about the conflict and types of abuse and fighting. Add more names and contact to "My Circle of Support." Use Page 5 of the Pamphlet Lets also List or Update other Resources (Telephone Numbers)
		 Emergency Shelter Counseling Legal
		 Pregnancy Advisor Other Is it safe for you to take this pamphlet home or should I keep it here? I also have a card with some helpful numbers – it does not indicate that they are abuse numbers – would you like to take this home instead?
CONCLUSION		You may stay or there may be a time of emergency or you may leave. Whatever your decision you will need a Circle of Support to help you with your plans. Developing your Circle of Support will help you no matter what you decide. I want you to remember that you do not cause the abuse or are to blame for the abuse. No pregnant woman or her unborn baby deserves to be hurt. You have started to think about your relationship, using a calendar to keep notes about your relationship, your options and a plan for your safety and the safety of your unborn baby, and your children, who may be witnesses. Each time we meet we will talk about what is happening in your relationship with your partner and how things are going with your partner and your safety plan.